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Date of Deposit: April 24, 2001

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Our Case No. 10932/162

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Thyssen et al.)
Serial No. To be assigned) Examiner: To be assigned
Filing Date: Herewith) Group Art Unit No.: To be assigned
For SILENCE DESCRIPTION CODING)
FOR MULTI-RATE SPEECH)
CODECS)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
BOX: PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowance mailed January 29, 2001, please enter this continuation application and this preliminary amendment in the above captioned application as set forth below.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please add the following claims:

*SLB
31*
A/ 21. A communication device having a multi-rate speech coder that performs silence description/coding of a speech signal having varying characteristics, comprising: